

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MARK ZOLLER ET AL.

Serial No.: Divisional of 10/179,373
Filed June 26, 2002

Group Art Unit:

Filed: December 3, 2003

Examiner:

Title: BINDING ASSAYS THAT USE THE T1R1/T1R3 (UMAMI)
TASTE RECEPTOR TO IDENTIFY COMPOUNDS THAT
ELICIT OR MODULATE UMAMI TASTE

Customer No. 23911

Confirmation No.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application cancel all the original claims and insert new claims 194-252.

These claims are all directed to binding assays that utilize the T1R1/T1R3 (umami) heteromeric taste receptor to identify components that bind to or which modulate (enhance or inhibit) the binding of another compound to the T1R1/T1R3 umami taste receptor.

These compounds are potentially useful for enhancing or inhibiting umami taste in humans and animals, and can be used as flavor additives in foods and beverages for human or animal consumption.

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 3 of this paper

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning page 4 of this paper.

A new Title is identified on page 12.

A new Abstract of the Disclosure is submitted herewith (attached as a separate page to this Preliminary Amendment).

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.